

CLAIMS

1 1. A method in a computer system for distributing user information for
2 registered users from the computer system to collection kiosks, the method comprising:

3 providing user information for registered users;

4 receiving updates to the user information;

5 generating update user information;

6 for each of the collection kiosks,

7 receiving a request from the collection kiosk for the generated update

8 user information;

9 sending to the requesting collection kiosk the update user information

10 wherein the collection kiosks use the update user information to verify whether

11 a user is registered.

12 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the collection kiosks operate as FTP
13 clients and the computer system operates as an FTP server.

14 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the received update user information
15 includes indications of whether to add a registered user, delete a registered user, or change
16 information relating to a registered user.

17 4. The method of claim 1 wherein a collection kiosk sends a request for the
18 generated update user information once a day.

19 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the user information includes a user
20 identifier and a password.

1 6. A method in a collection kiosk for retrieving updated user information,
2 the method comprising:

3 providing user information for registered users;
4 sending a request for updated user information;
5 in response to sending the request, receiving the updated user information; and
6 updating the provided user information for the registered user in accordance
7 with the received updated user information so that the collection kiosk can verify whether a
8 user of the collection kiosk is registered.

1 7. An information collection system comprising:

2 a central computer system for a web site, the central computer system
3 providing a repository for the information, web pages for registering users of the web site,
4 and for accessing the information; and

5 a plurality of collection kiosks for collecting information about users, for
6 verifying whether a user is registered at the web site, and for sending the collected
7 information to the central computer system when the user is registered.

1 8. The information system of claim 7 wherein the information is medical
2 information.

1 9. A computer-based method for collecting medical information of users of
2 a web site, the method comprising:

3 registering the users at the web site when information about a user is collected
4 at one of a plurality of collection kiosks,
5 determining whether the user is registered at the website; and
6 when registered, sending the collected information to a computer system so
7 that the collected information is accessible to the user through the web site.